two more new Divisions *i.e.* Guntur and Nanded are being added to it, while Hubli Division is going under new South Western Railway Zone, Hubli.

Abohar-Fazilka rail line

3249. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether survey for laying new rail line between Abohar and Fazilka, in Punjab, has been completed; if so, when and the findings of the survey report;

(b) which route has been suggested in the survey report and what would be its total length; and

(c) by when the rail line laying work is likely to start and be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) The survey for construction of new broad gauge rail line between Abohar and Fazilka (42.717 km.) was completed in December, 1997. As per survey report, the cost of the project has been assessed as Rs. 73.15 crore with a rate of return of (-) 7.44%. The stations are proposed at Burj Mohar, Churiwala, Ghallu, Khuikhera and Jandwala. The project was included in the Budget 1997-98 with the proviso that the work would be taken up after obtaining requisite clearances, which have since been obtained in September, 2001. The final location survey has been completed and land acquisition is in process. No target date has been fixed for completion of this project.

Internet kiosks at railway stations

3250. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have taken steps to allocate more space at railway stations for putting up internet kiosks;

(b) if so, whether railway stations have been identified in Tamil Nadu for this purpose, State-wise; and

(c) how many railway stations have been identified in India for the above purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Commission of Railway Safety

3251. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the safety of a rail passenger is the responsibility of an office called the Commission of Railway Safety (CRS);

(b) if so, whether the credibility of CRS has come under considerable strain after the recent Rajdhani Express accident;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by Government to make free from the undue pressure on this organisation in the interest of the safety of a rail passenger?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir. The responsibility of safety of rail passenger lies with the Indian Railways.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Commission of Railway Safety, though, charged with the inquiry into serious rail accidents as defined in Indian Railway Act, 1989, is independent of Ministry of Railways, as it functions under the authority of Ministry of Civil Aviation.

Misbehave by CRPF Jawans in Kerala Express

3252. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a group of tipsy CRPF Jawans tortured a school team from Madhya Pradesh, consisting of girls and female teaching staff, travelling in Thiruvananthapuram bound Kerala Express, on the 18th October, 2002;